

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A CPU (Central Processing Unit) sets an unrewritable area in a nonvolatile memory in accordance with a program for system initialization stored in a boot ROM (Read Only Memory). An access control circuit controls permission/prohibition of rewriting based on
5 a written flag set in the unrewritable area. This allows a system creator to freely write information which needs protection against tampering and also ensures protection against tampering of the information.